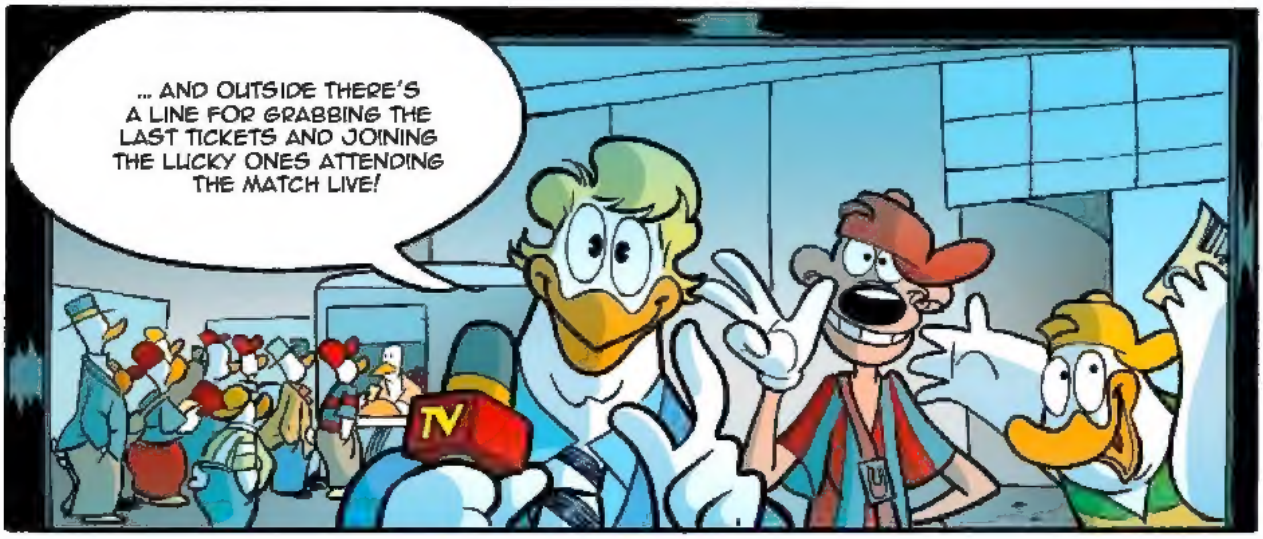
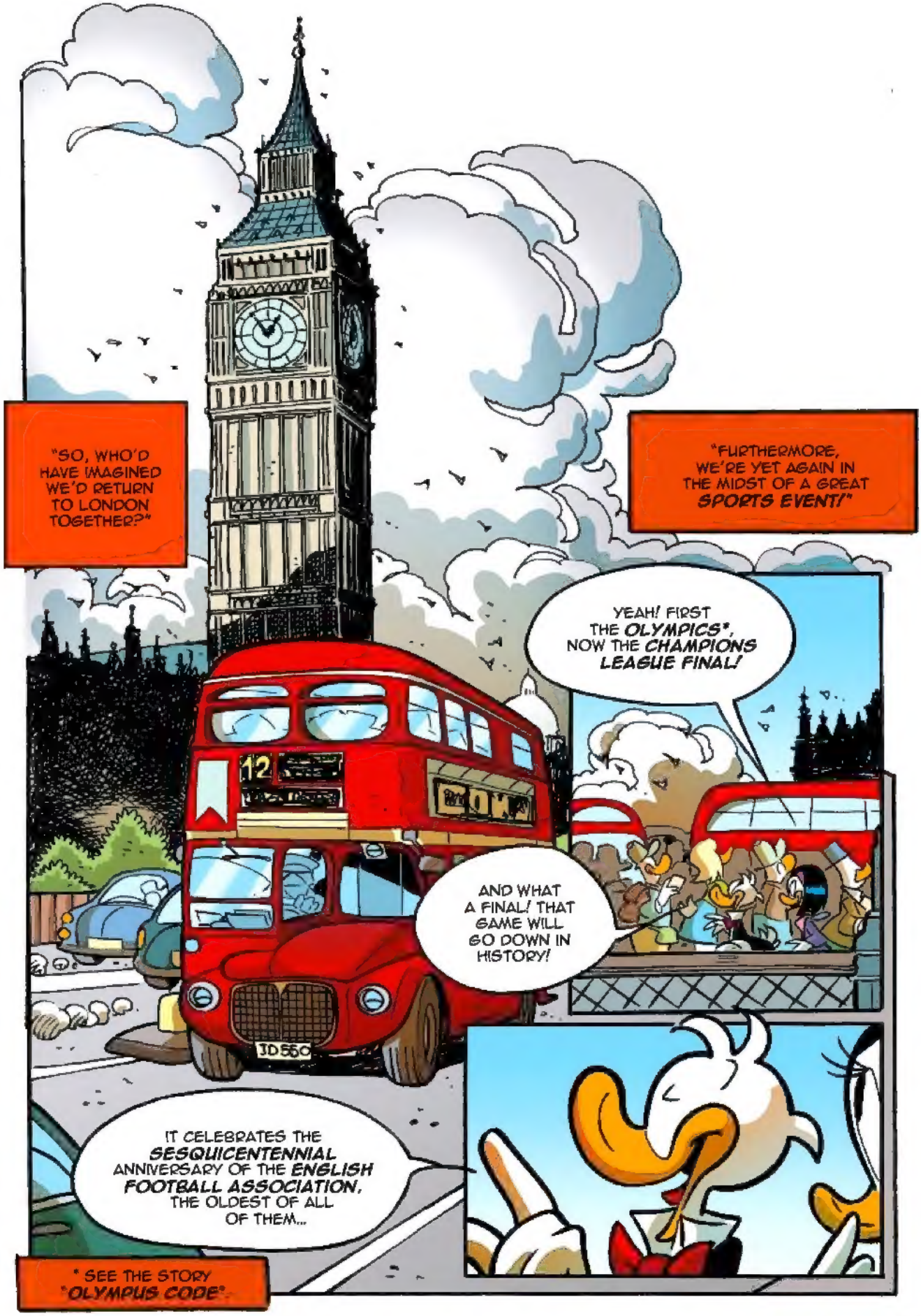
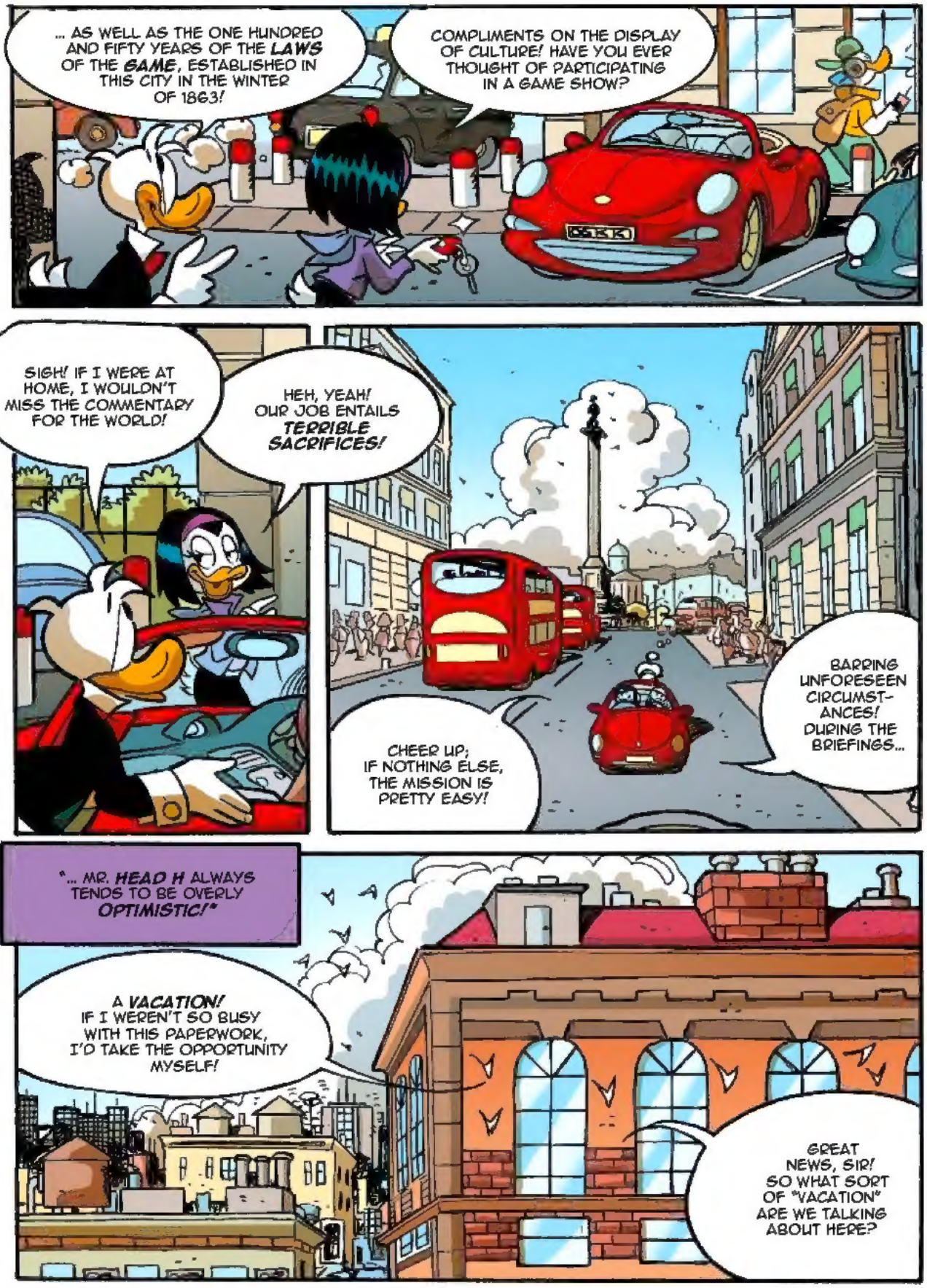
"THE ANTICIPATION IS HIGH HERE AT WEMBLEY STADIUM! THE PLAYING FIELD UNDERWENT THE USUAL INSPECTION THIS MORNING..."
DOUBLEDUCK
CALCIO D'INIZIO
Walt Disney
I-2999-1

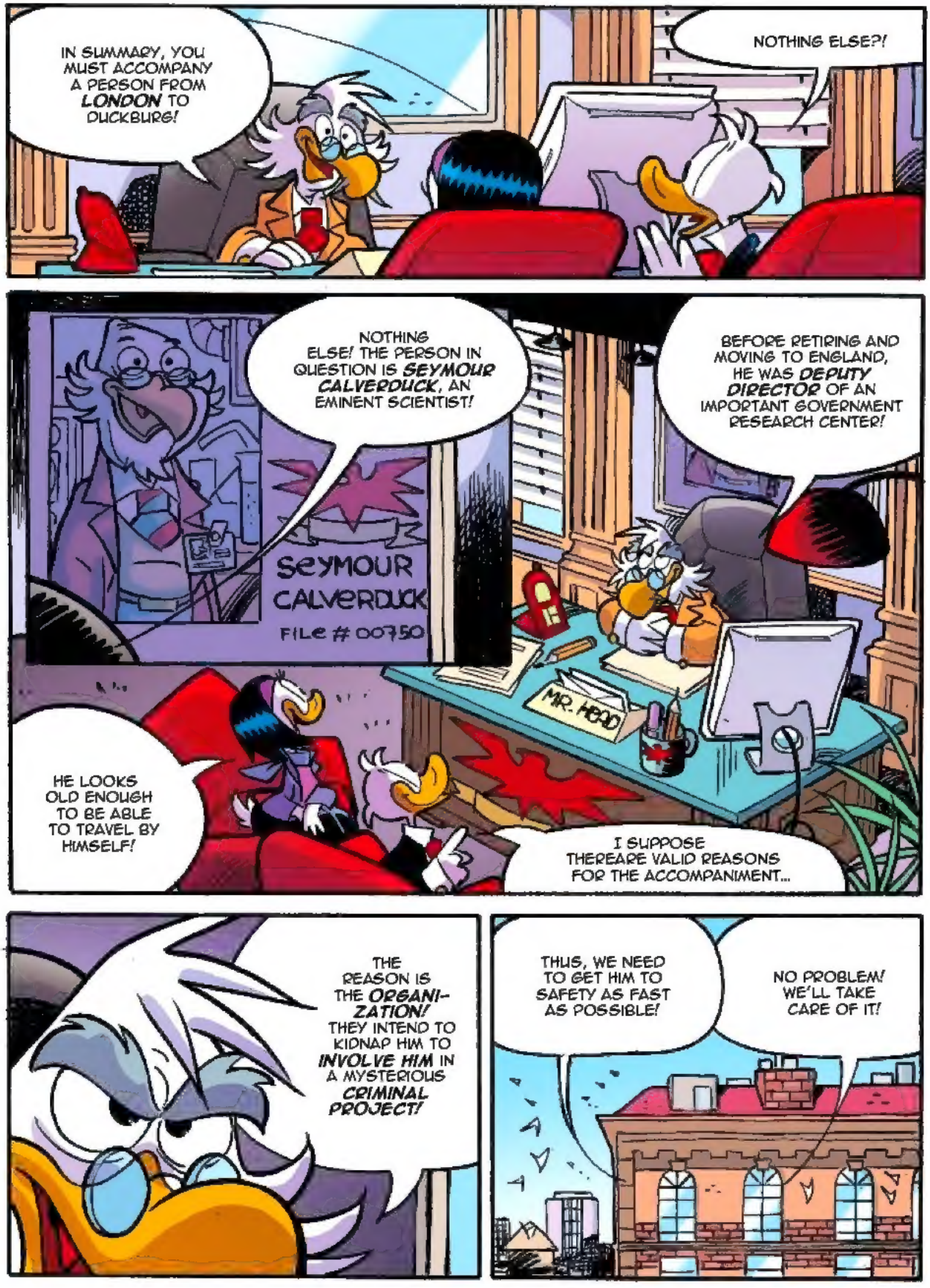


Testo di **Marco Bosco** - Disegni di **Marco Mazzarello**
Supervisione colore di **Max Monteduro**

FOR EVERYONE ELSE IT WILL BE BROADCASTED...
IT WILL *NOT* FAIL! THE PROBLEM HAS BEEN SOLVED AND TOMORROW WE'LL CARRY OUT THE LAST *TEST*...
YOU KNOW HOW MUCH WE'VE INVESTED INTO THE OPERATION! DO YOU ALSO KNOW *WHO* WILL PAY, IF IT FAILS?
ZWAP
... BUT AT THIS POINT IT'S A PURE FORMALITY!
AFTERWARDS, WE'LL GO INTO ACTION AT THE DESIGNATED LOCATION!
WELL THEN, *GOOD LUCK!* OVER AND OUT!
PARTIAL/FI
1-1 3,75 1-X 15,
X-1 3,45 X-X 5,
2-1 3,50 2-X 12,
CLICK

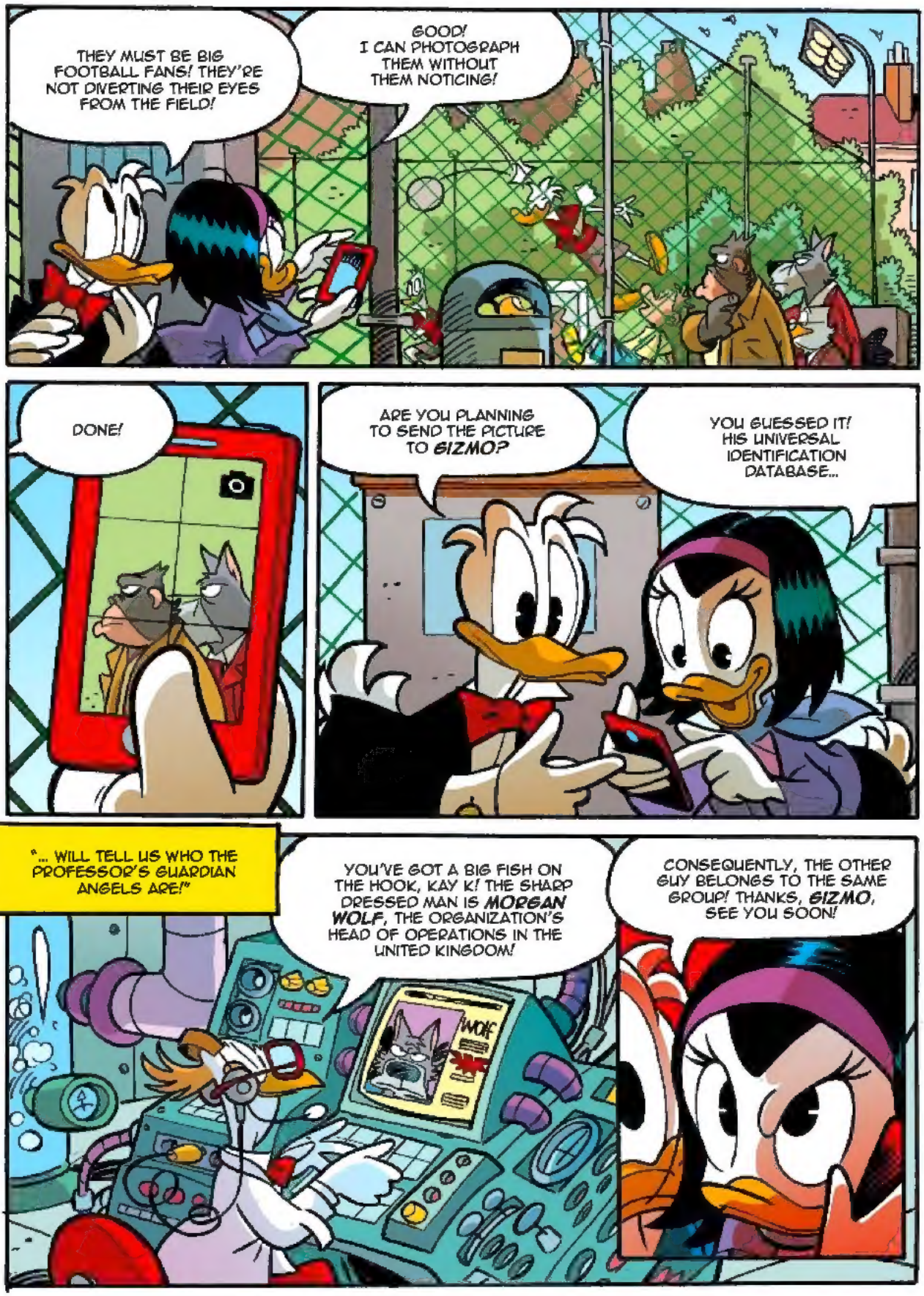

"SO, WHO'D HAVE IMAGINED WE'D RETURN TO LONDON TOGETHER?"
"FURTHERMORE, WE'RE YET AGAIN IN THE MIDST OF A GREAT SPORTS EVENT!"
YEAH! FIRST THE OLYMPICS*, NOW THE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FINAL!
AND WHAT A FINAL! THAT GAME WILL GO DOWN IN HISTORY!
IT CELEBRATES THE SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENGLISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, THE OLDEST OF ALL OF THEM...
* SEE THE STORY "OLYMPUS CODE"


... AS WELL AS THE ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS OF THE LAWS OF THE GAME, ESTABLISHED IN THIS CITY IN THE WINTER OF 1863!
COMPLIMENTS ON THE DISPLAY OF CULTURE! HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF PARTICIPATING IN A GAME SHOW?
SIGH! IF I WERE AT HOME, I WOULDN'T MISS THE COMMENTARY FOR THE WORLD!
HEH, YEAH! OUR JOB ENTAILS TERRIBLE SACRIFICES!
CHEER UP; IF NOTHING ELSE, THE MISSION IS PRETTY EASY!
BARRING UNFORESEEN CIRCUMST-ANCES! DURING THE BRIEFINGS...
"... MR. HEAD H ALWAYS TENDS TO BE OVERLY OPTIMISTIC!"
A VACATION! IF I WEREN'T SO BUSY WITH THIS PAPERWORK, I'D TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY MYSELF!
GREAT NEWS, SIR! SO WHAT SORT OF "VACATION" ARE WE TALKING ABOUT HERE?


IN SUMMARY, YOU MUST ACCOMPANY A PERSON FROM LONDON TO DUCKBURG!
NOTHING ELSE?!
NOTHING ELSE! THE PERSON IN QUESTION IS SEYMOUR CALVERDUCK, AN EMINENT SCIENTIST!
BEFORE RETIRING AND MOVING TO ENGLAND, HE WAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AN IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT RESEARCH CENTER!
SEYMOUR CALVERDUCK
FILE # 007750
MR. HEAD
HE LOOKS OLD ENOUGH TO BE ABLE TO TRAVEL BY HIMSELF!
I SUPPOSE THEREARE VALID REASONS FOR THE ACCOMPANIMENT...
THE REASON IS THE ORGANI-ZATION! THEY INTEND TO KIDNAP HIM TO INVOLVE HIM IN A MYSTERIOUS CRIMINAL PROJECT!
THUS, WE NEED TO GET HIM TO SAFETY AS FAST AS POSSIBLE!
NO PROBLEM! WE'LL TAKE CARE OF IT!

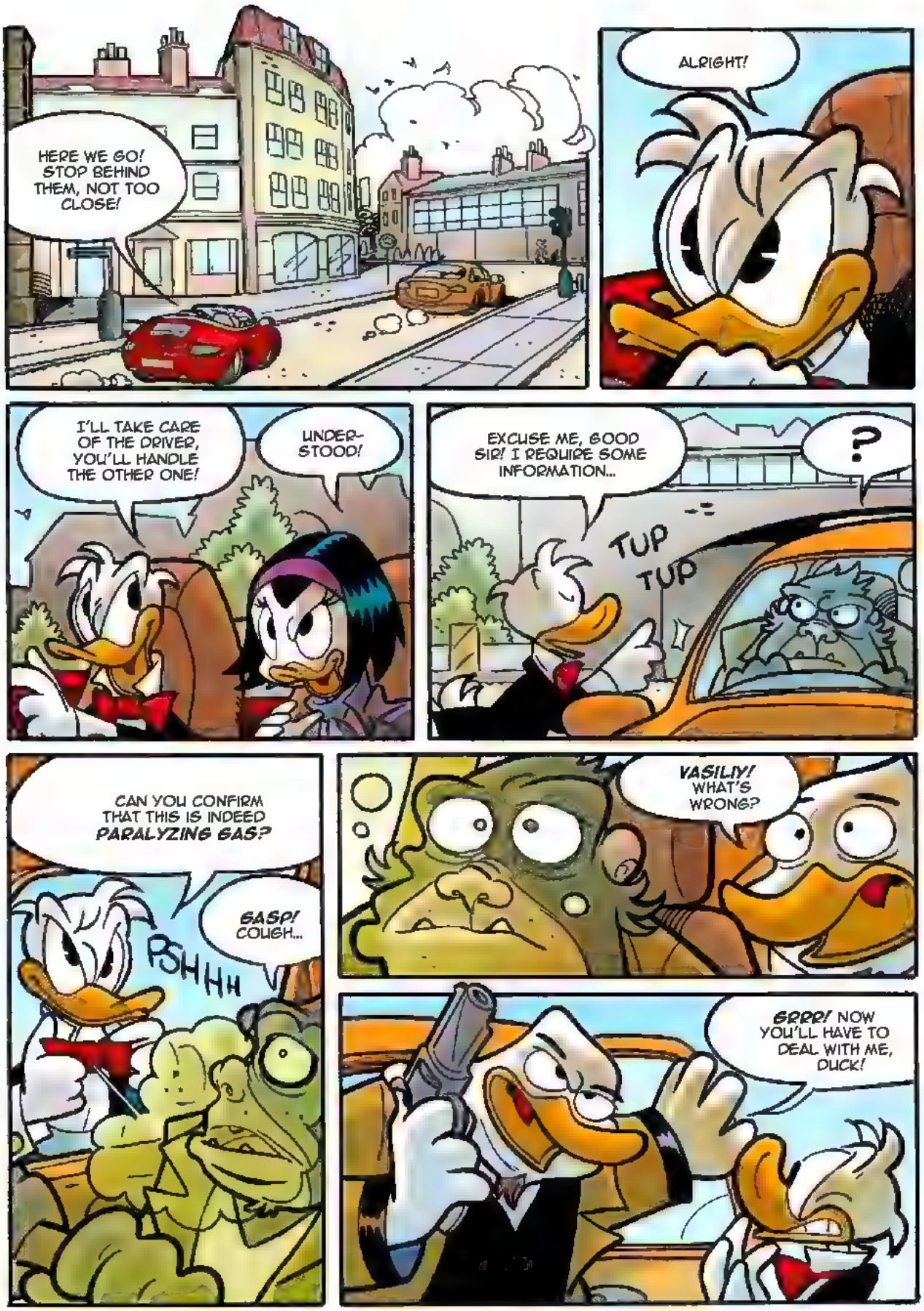
HERE WE ARE IN HOLLOWAY! PROFESSOR CALVERDUCK HAS SETTLED DOWN IN THIS DISTRICT!
WHAT A COINCIDENCE! HERE'S ALSO THE HOME OF ARSENAL, ONE OF THE MOST LEGENDARY ENGLISH FOOTBALL TEAMS!
THEY HOLD THE LONGEST WINNING STREAK IN THE LEAGUE AND...
ALRIGHT, YOU CAN TELL ME LATER! NOW FOLLOW ME!
NO ANSWER! SEEMS LIKE HE'S OUT!
DLIN DLON
MR. Calverduck
TSK! UNFORESEEN CIRCUMST-ANCES...
I HAD A FEELING THAT... HEY! LOOK OVER THERE!
IT'S HIM!

IT LOOKS LIKE THOSE TWO GOT A TIGHT HOLD ON HIM!
I NOTICED! OUT OF PRUDENCY, LET'S WATCH THEM WITHOUT EXPOSING OURSELVES!
HE HE! NICE KICK THERE, YELLOW!
I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH INCOMPETENCE!
SWISH
?


THEY MUST BE BIG FOOTBALL FANS! THEY'RE NOT DIVERTING THEIR EYES FROM THE FIELD!
GOOD! I CAN PHOTOGRAPH THEM WITHOUT THEM NOTICING!
DONE!
ARE YOU PLANNING TO SEND THE PICTURE TO GIZMO?
YOU GUESSED IT! HIS UNIVERSAL IDENTIFICATION DATABASE...
"... WILL TELL US WHO THE PROFESSOR'S GUARDIAN ANGELS ARE!"
YOU'VE GOT A BIG FISH ON THE HOOK, KAY K! THE SHARP DRESSED MAN IS MORGAN WOLF, THE ORGANIZATION'S HEAD OF OPERATIONS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM!
CONSEQUENTLY, THE OTHER GUY BELONGS TO THE SAME GROUP! THANKS, GIZMO, SEE YOU SOON!
WOLF

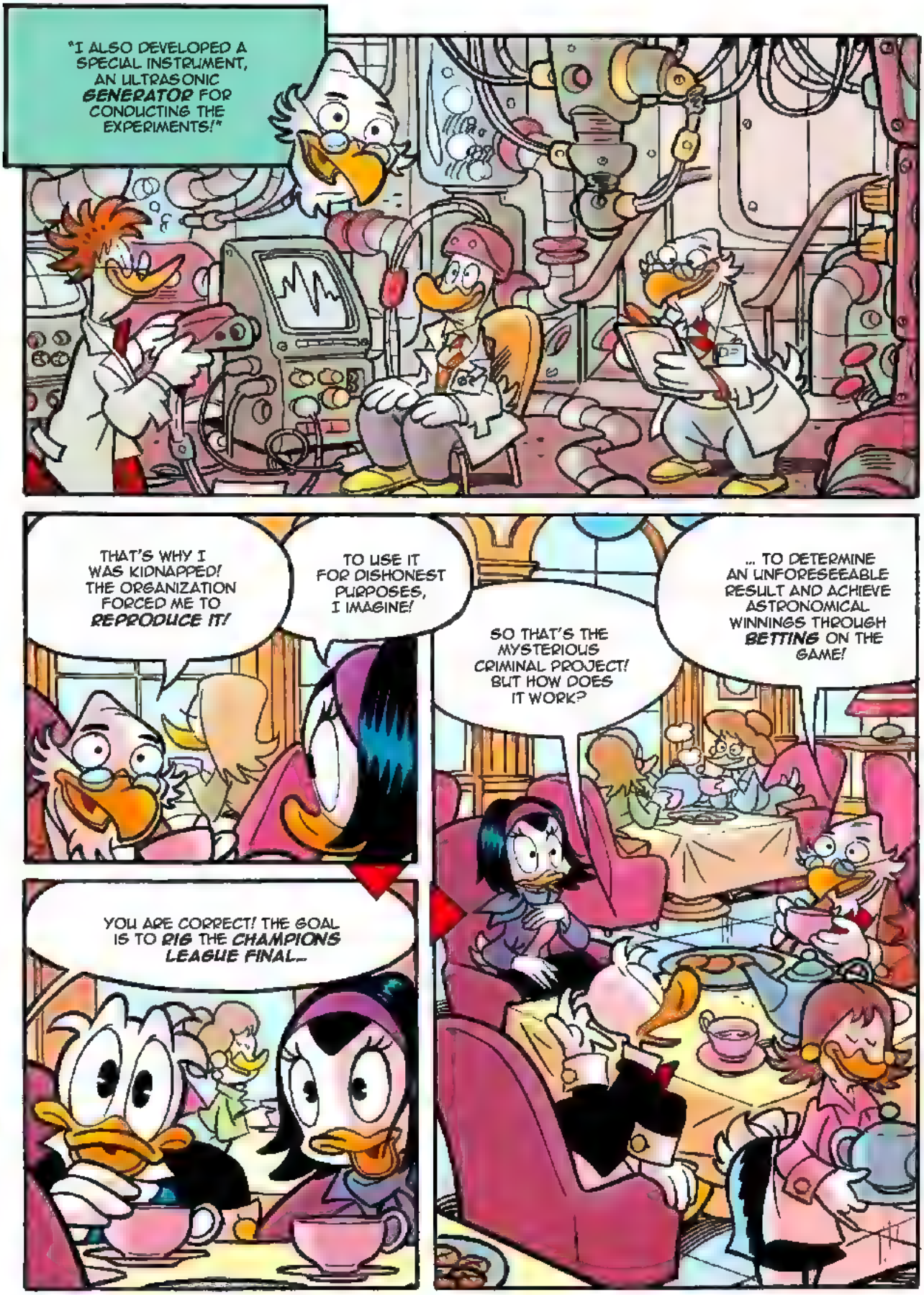
WE WERE TOO LATE! THE SCOUNDRELS PRECEDED US!
CLEARLY, BUT THEIR INTENTIONS ESCAPE ME!
IF THEY'VE KIDNAPPED THE PROFESSOR, WHAT'S THE POINT IN DRAGGING HIM AROUND?
GASP!
BONK
URGH!
STOMP
WHAT'S GOING ON? WE'RE LOSING TWELVE TO ZERO...
DUNNO! COULD BE PHYSICAL DECLINE FROM TOO MUCH TRAINING!
LOOK! THEY'RE LEAVING!

MEETING'S OVER! WOLF IS GOING HIS OWN WAY!
LET HIM GO! HE'S NOT OF INTEREST RIGHT NOW!
P
RIGHT! OUR PRIORITY IS FREEING CALVERDUCK!
WE'LL HAVE TO DEAL WITH THOSE GORILLAS! THEY LOOK LIKE TOUGH NUTS!
YEAH, BUT THEY DON'T EXPECT AN ATTACK! WE HAVE THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE ON OUR SIDE!


HERE WE GO! STOP BEHIND THEM, NOT TOO CLOSE!
ALRIGHT!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE DRIVER, YOU'LL HANDLE THE OTHER ONE!
UNDER-STOOD!
EXCUSE ME, GOOD SIR! I REQUIRE SOME INFORMATION...
?
TUP TUP
CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT THIS IS INDEED PARALYZING GAS?
PSHHH
GASP! COUGH...
VASILIY! WHAT'S WRONG?
GRRR! NOW YOU'LL HAVE TO DEAL WITH ME, DUCK!

CALM DOWN, HANDSOME! ANGER IS BAD FOR YOUR HEALTH!
SWWISH
TWAK
GET OUT, QUICK! WE HAVE TO CLEAR OFF!
!
WHO ARE YOU?
VROOM
SKREEE
SECRET AGENTS! WE'LL BE TAKING YOU TO DUCKBURG, WHERE YOU'LL BE SAFE!
VROOOM
WE SHOULD HAVE PRECEDED THEM! AT WHAT TIME DID THEY GET TO YOU?
I'M AFRAID YOU PEOPLE ARE POORLY INFORMED...

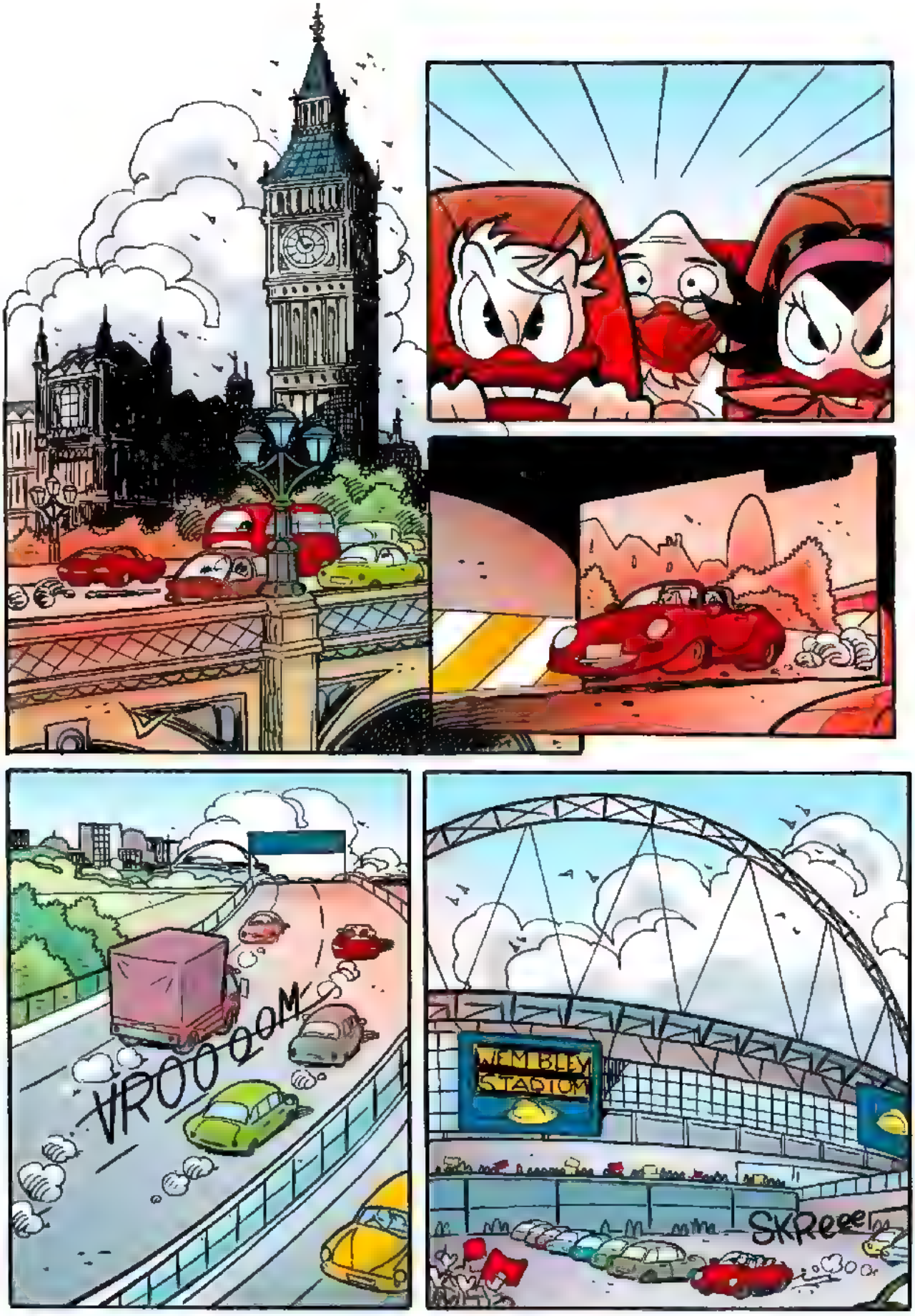
I'VE BEEN IN THEIR HANDS FOR MORE THAN A MONTH!
EEEH?!
D-DO YOU MIND STOPPING? I'M GOING TO GET SICK!
NO PROBLEM, DD!
NOW THAT YOU'RE FREE, HOW ABOUT YOU TELL US THE STORY FROM THE START?
ALRIGHT, BUT FIRST IT'D BE BETTER THAT I ILLUSTRATE THE SUBJECT OF MY PAST RESEARCH!
PUT SIMPLY, I WAS DEALING WITH ULTRASOUNDS!
HUH? THOSE THAT CAN ONLY BE HEARD BY DOGS?
EXACTLY! SPECIFICALLY, I STUDIED THE INFLUENCE OF VERY HIGH FREQUENCIES ON BRAIN ACTIVITY!


"I ALSO DEVELOPED A SPECIAL INSTRUMENT, AN ULTRASONIC GENERATOR FOR CONDUCTING THE EXPERIMENTS!"
THAT'S WHY I WAS KIDNAPPED! THE ORGANIZATION FORCED ME TO REPRODUCE IT!
TO USE IT FOR DISHONEST PURPOSES, I IMAGINE!
SO THAT'S THE MYSTERIOUS CRIMINAL PROJECT! BUT HOW DOES IT WORK?
... TO DETERMINE AN UNFORESEEABLE RESULT AND ACHIEVE ASTRONOMICAL WINNINGS THROUGH BETTING ON THE GAME!
YOU ARE CORRECT! THE GOAL IS TO RIG THE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FINAL...

WHAT IT DOES IS CONDITION THE PLAYERS ON THE FIELD WITH ULTRASONIC PULSES! FIRED AT THE SUBJECT...
"... THEY CAUSE CONFUSION IN THE CEREBRAL ACTIVITIES WHICH LASTS FOR A FEW MILLISECONDS..."
YES! AND THE BEST PART IS THAT NOBODY NOTICES, NOT EVEN THE SUBJECT ITSELF!
WHICH MAKES IT THE PERFECT SCAM!
... ENOUGH TO SABOTAGE TECHNICAL GESTURE ONE'S ENGAGED IN!
AND SO THEY BUNGLE THE SHOT, THE SAVE AND EVERYTHING!
"IT'S A SORT OF MINI TABLET; IT FOLLOWS THE GAME LIKE ON TELEVISION..."
AND HOW DO YOU MANEUVER THE GENERATOR?
IT HAS A COMPUTERIZED TARGETING SYSTEM, GUIDED BY A REMOTE CONTROL!

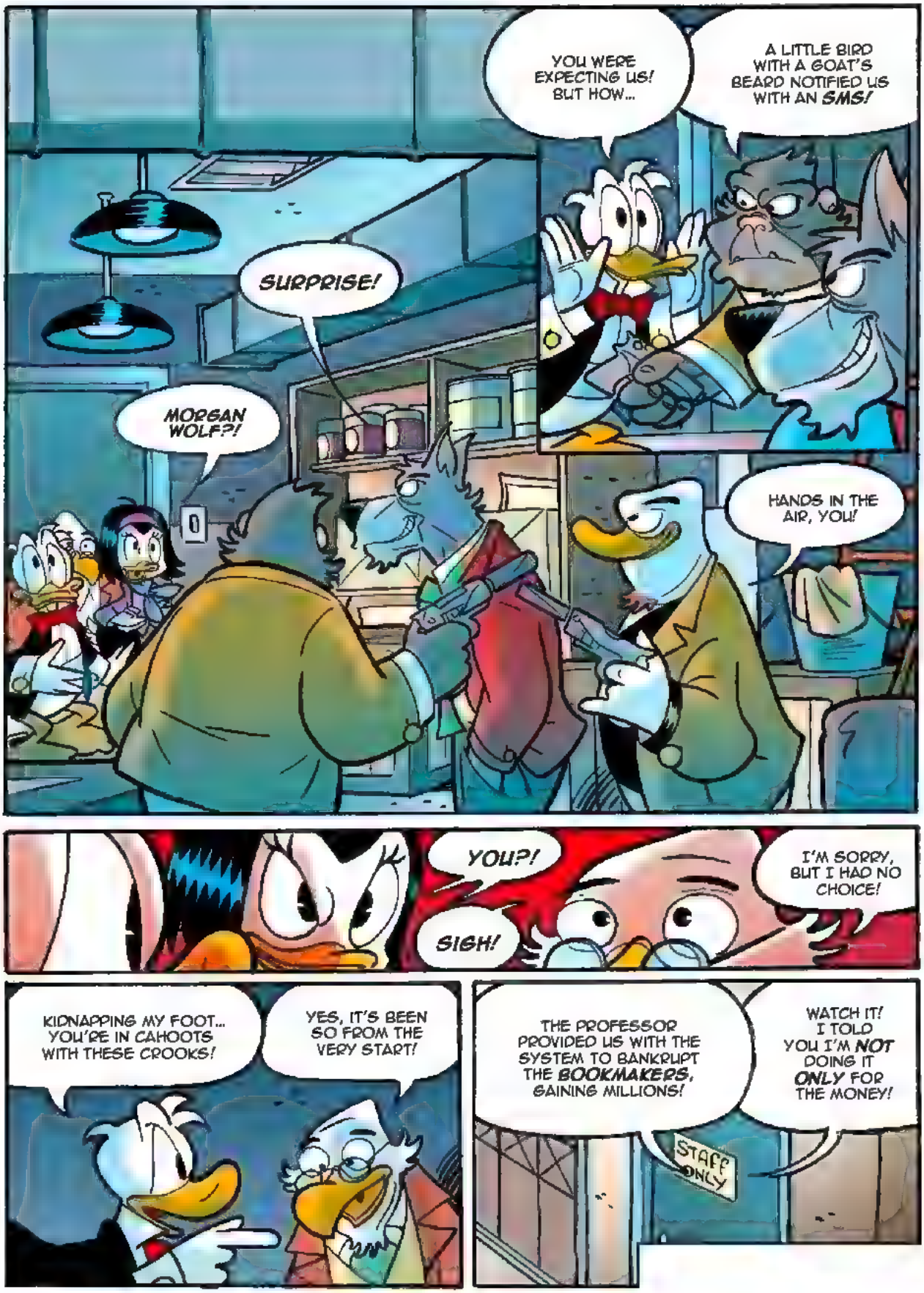
... AND TO SELECT A PLAYER AS THE TARGET YOU ONLY HAVE TO *TOUCH* THE SCREEN!
WHICH EXPLAINS YOUR AFTERNOON SALLY, I PRESUME!
YES! A CORRECTION OF A DEFECT WITH THE REMOTE CONTROL IMPOSED A FINAL TEST *IN EXTREMIS!*
"WOLF MADE USE OF A FOOTBALL FIELD LOCATED NEAR MY HOME..."
"... AND OVERNIGHT HE HAD THE GENERATOR ATTACHED TO A LAMP POST!"
AND THEY'LL GET SERIOUS TONIGHT AT WEMBLEY...
THANKS TO A SECOND IDENTICAL DEVICE, PLACED DAYS AGO!

"IT'S HANGING FROM THE RIM OF THE ARCH OF THE NORTH STAND, THE MAIN GRANDSTAND!"
DID THEY HAVE TO PUT IT RIGHT UP THERE?
YES! IT MUST BE PLACED HIGH TO COVER MOST OF THE PLAYING FIELD!
THE REMOTE CONTROL IS IN THE POSSESSION OF WOLF, WHO AT THIS MOMENT IS GOING TO THE STADIUM!
MEANING WE MUST INTERVENE, BEFORE HE CAN USE IT!
THE GAME STARTS IN LESS THAN THREE HOURS!
I KNOW! WE HAVE TO HURRY!
VROOOM


VROOOOM
WEMBLEY STADIUM
SKREEE

NOW WHAT? HOW ARE WE EVER GOING TO GET INSIDE WITHOUT TICKETS?
DON'T NEED THEM! WE HAVE SOMETHING BETTER!
WEMBLEY STADIUM
VOILÀ! FAKE BADGES AND CARDS FOR EVERY OCCASION!
THESE WILL TURN US INTO UNSUSPECTED JOURNALISTS!
WOW! I THOUGHT SUCH THINGS ONLY HAPPENED IN MOVIES!

PRESS!
OKAY, GO RIGHT IN!
FINDING WOLF WILL BE TOUGH! THIS PLACE IS HUGE!
I KNOW WHERE HE'S HIDING! I WAS BROUGHT THERE ONCE!
Restaurant
STADIUM
BARS, RESTAURANTS, SHOPS... NOTHING'S MISSING HERE!
IT'S THE WORLD'S MOST EXPENSIVE STADIUM! IT TOOK 757 MILLION POUNDS TO BUILD IT!
FOLLOW ME! WE'RE GOING THROUGH THAT DOOR!
STAFF ONLY
STAFF ONLY


YOU WERE EXPECTING US! BUT HOW...
A LITTLE BIRD WITH A GOAT'S BEARD NOTIFIED US WITH AN SMS!
SURPRISE!
MORGAN WOLF?!
HANDS IN THE AIR, YOU!
YOU?!
SIGH!
I'M SORRY, BUT I HAD NO CHOICE!
KIDNAPPING MY FOOT... YOU'RE IN CAHOOTS WITH THESE CROOKS!
YES, IT'S BEEN SO FROM THE VERY START!
THE PROFESSOR PROVIDED US WITH THE SYSTEM TO BANKRUPT THE BOOKMAKERS, GAINING MILLIONS!
WATCH IT! I TOLD YOU I'M NOT DOING IT ONLY FOR THE MONEY!
STAFF ONLY

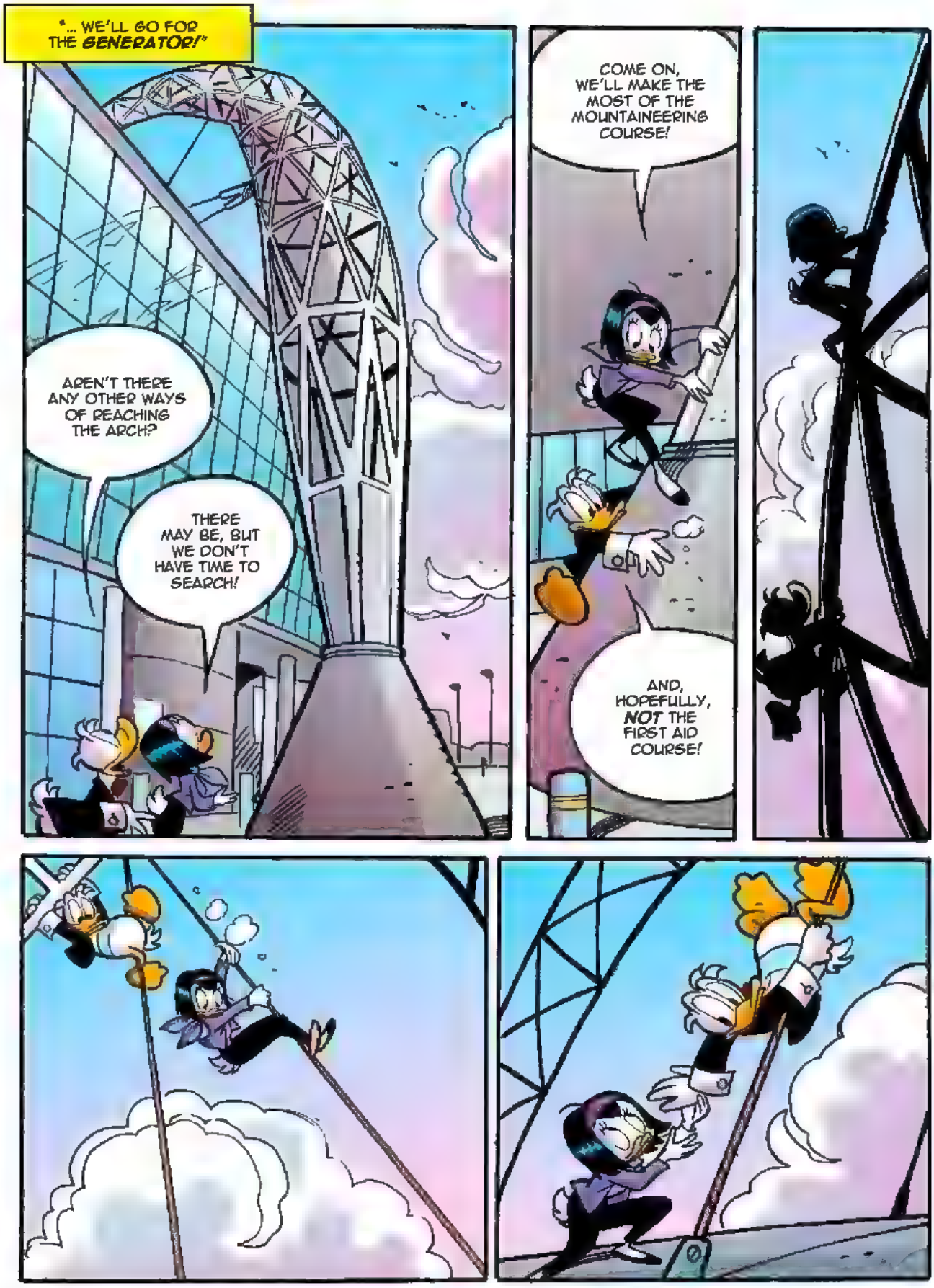
WHAT ELSE ARE YOU DOING IT FOR?
VENGEANCE, AGAINST THOSE WHO HAVE REFUSED TO RECOGNIZE MY SCIENTIFIC MERITS!
FOR YEARS I WAITED TO BE APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF THE RESEARCH CENTER AND WHEN I THOUGHT THE TIME HAD FINALLY COME...
AND SO, AFTER HAVING RESIGNED, OUR PARTNER WENT OVER TO THE BAD GUYS!
... THEY CHOSE AN INCAPABLE AND RECOMMENDED COLLEAGUE IN MY PLACE! HOW COULD I STAND IT?
SO, YOU REVEALED THE PLAN IN ORDER TO BRING US HERE! VERY CLEVER!
IN FACT, I WAS TO ENTER THE STADIUM ALONG WITH MR. WOLF, SEEING AS...
... THE ONE WITH THE REMOTE CONTROL IS ME! MY PRESENCE WAS INDISPENSABLE!
?!

YOURS, HOWEVER, HAS BECOME SUPERFLUOUS! GO ON, GET INSIDE!
AND NO SUDDEN MOVES! YOU WOULDN'T EVEN HAVE TIME TO REGRET!
SPAF
OOF..
WE'LL COME BACK TO GET THEM WHEN THEY'RE COLD ENOUGH!
THIRTY DEGREES BELOW ZERO SHOULD DO IT!
SLAM
HOLD ON THERE! YOU ASSURED ME THAT...
SORRY! WE CAN'T LEAVE WITNESSES AROUND!
COME ON, DON'T FRET! SOON YOU'LL HAVE SO MUCH CASH THAT YOU WON'T KNOW HOW TO SPEND IT!
SIGH!

BRRR! NOW I WISH I BROUGHT A SWEATER WITH ME...
DON'T LOSE YOUR CALM AND THINK IT OVER! MUMBLE...
DO YOU STILL HAVE THAT PACK OF CHEWING GUM?
SURE! THE KNUCKLEHEAD WHO SEARCHED ME HAD NO REASON TO TAKE IT!
HERE IT IS!
LET'S HOPE THERE'S NOT ANYBODY LEFT OUTSIDE!
WE HAVE TO TAKE THE RISK! IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE TO SAVE OURSELVES!
IF ONLY HE KNEW THAT... MUNCH... THIS IS A PLASTIC EXPLOSIVE... MUNCH... FLAVORED WITH MINT...
DONE! COVER YOUR EARS!
REMEMBER TO ASK GIZMO TO ADD OTHER FLAVORS, JUST FOR VARIATION!
Ice Cream
Ice Cream

BWANG
IT WORKED! HURRAY!
LUCK'S ON OUR SIDE! THERE'S NO SIGN OF WOLF AND THOSE THUGS OF HIS!
HE WAS CERTAIN HE HAD US TRAPPED! YOU MUST NEVER UNDERESTIMATE YOU ADVERSARY'S RESOURCES!
WHICH WAY WOULD THEY HAVE GONE?
AS FAR AS WE KNOW, THE ULTRASONIC DEVICE IS REMOTE CONTROLLED...
SO, TO GUIDE IT, HE'S BOUND TO BE LURKING ON THE STANDS!

FOR CRYING OUT LOUD! I DIDN'T EXPECT IT TO BE THIS BIG!
WITH NINETY THOUSAND SPECTATORS, IT HOLDS THE SECOND MOST CAPACITY IN EUROPE AFTER BARCELONA'S CAMP NOU!
ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE NEEDLE IN THE HAYSTACK?
YOU'RE RIGHT! LOCATING THE PROFESSOR WOULD TAKE HOURS!
AND THERE'S FORTY-FIVE MINUTES LEFT TILL KICK-OFF!
SO WE'LL HAVE TO CHANGE STRATEGY! INSTEAD OF THE REMOTE CONTROL...

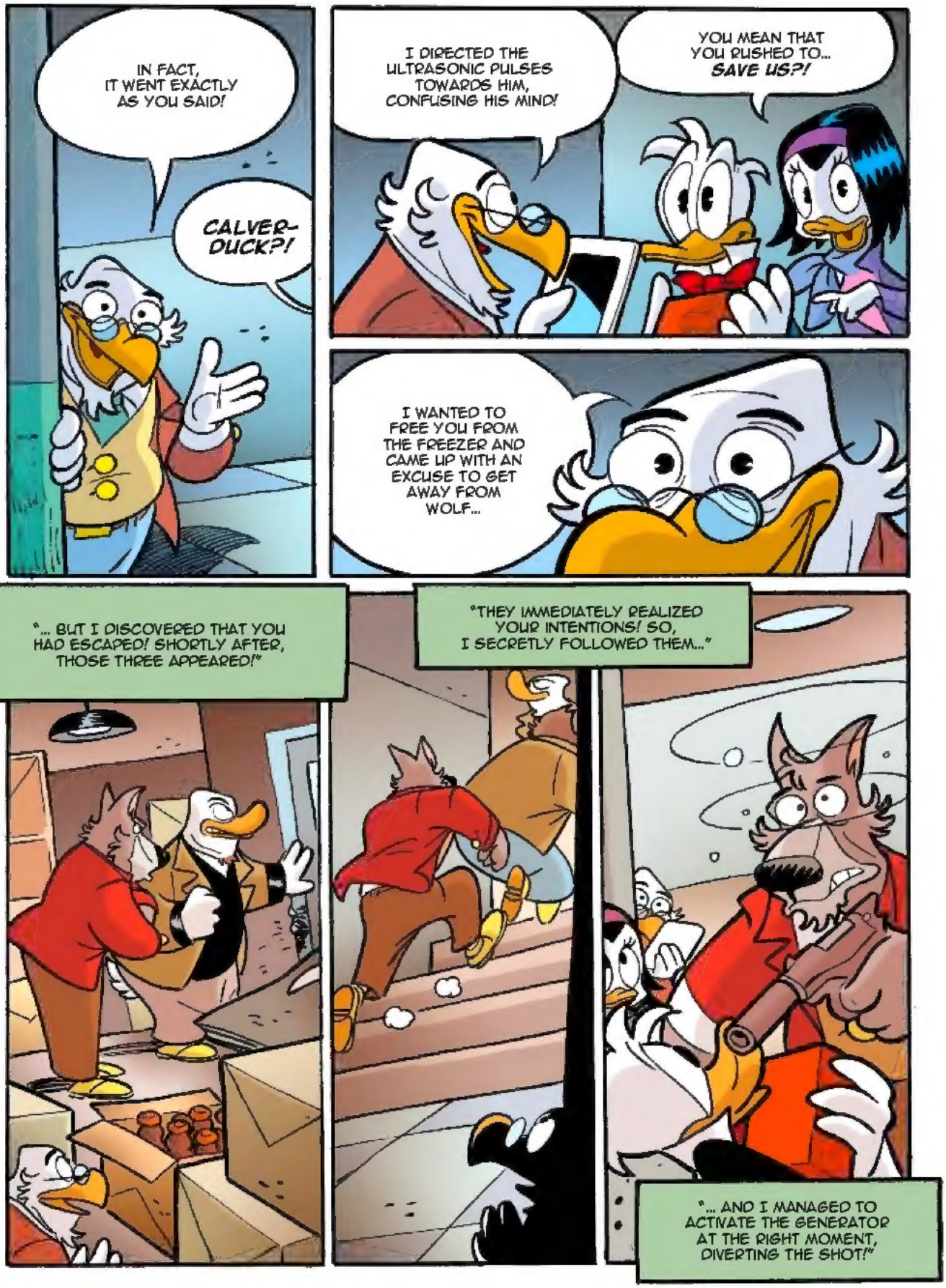

"... WE'LL GO FOR THE GENERATOR!"
AREN'T THERE ANY OTHER WAYS OF REACHING THE ARCH?
THERE MAY BE, BUT WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO SEARCH!
COME ON, WE'LL MAKE THE MOST OF THE MOUNTAINEERING COURSE!
AND, HOPEFULLY, NOT THE FIRST AID COURSE!

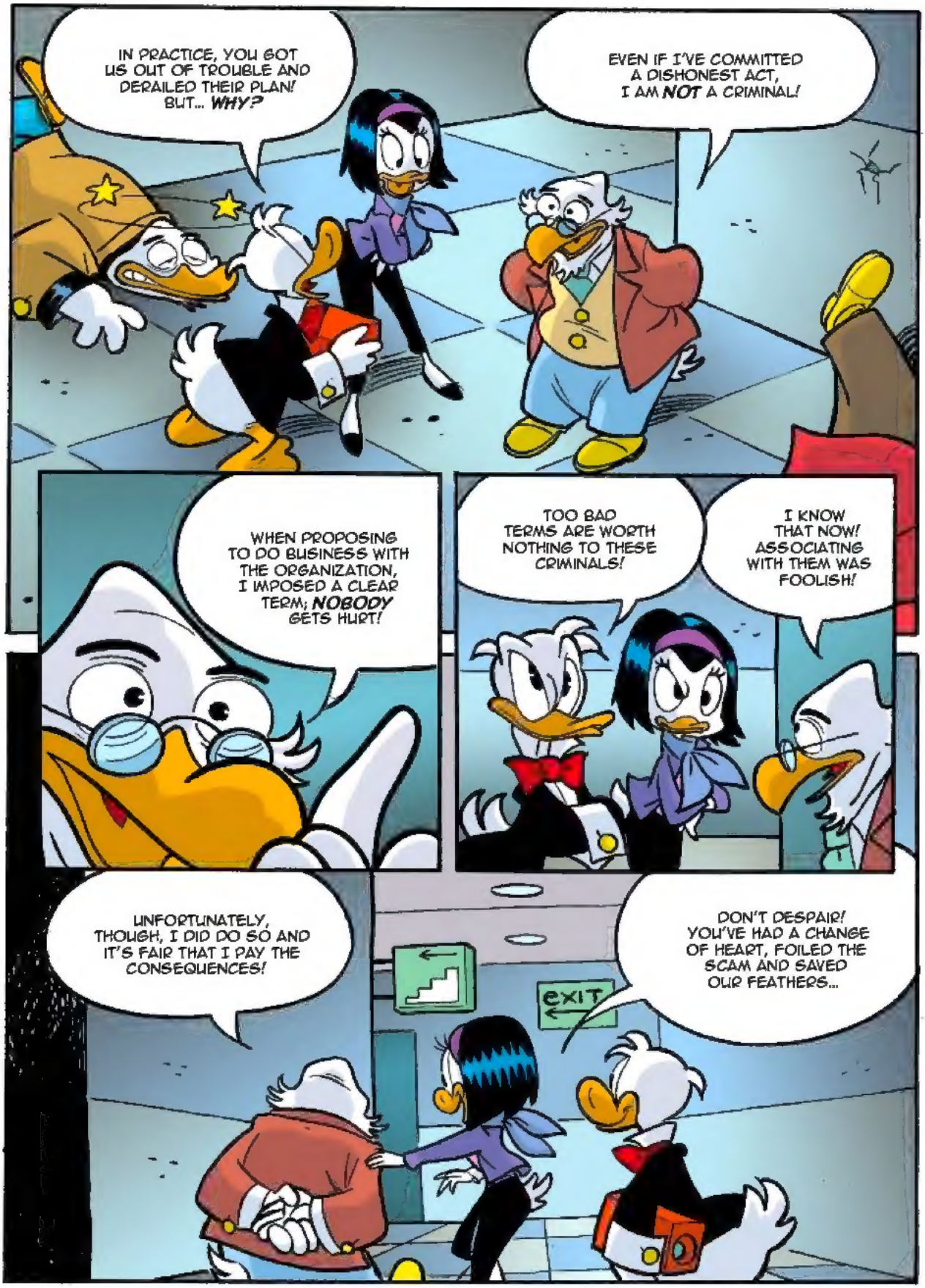
HOW DO WE RECOGNIZE THE GENERATOR? WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE!
THERE CAN'T BE MANY DEVICES ATTACHED TO THE RIM HERE! THAT'S FOR SURE!
BINGO! THAT MUST BE IT!
HELP ME DETACH IT!
L-LET'S BE QUICK ABOUT IT! I'M STARTING TO GET VERTIGO!
THERE! IT'S LIGHTER THAN I IMAGINED!
THAT MEANS YOU WON'T HAVE DIFFICULTY CARRYING IT!
AND THERE'S A HATCH HERE! THE DESCENT WILL BE MORE COMFY!

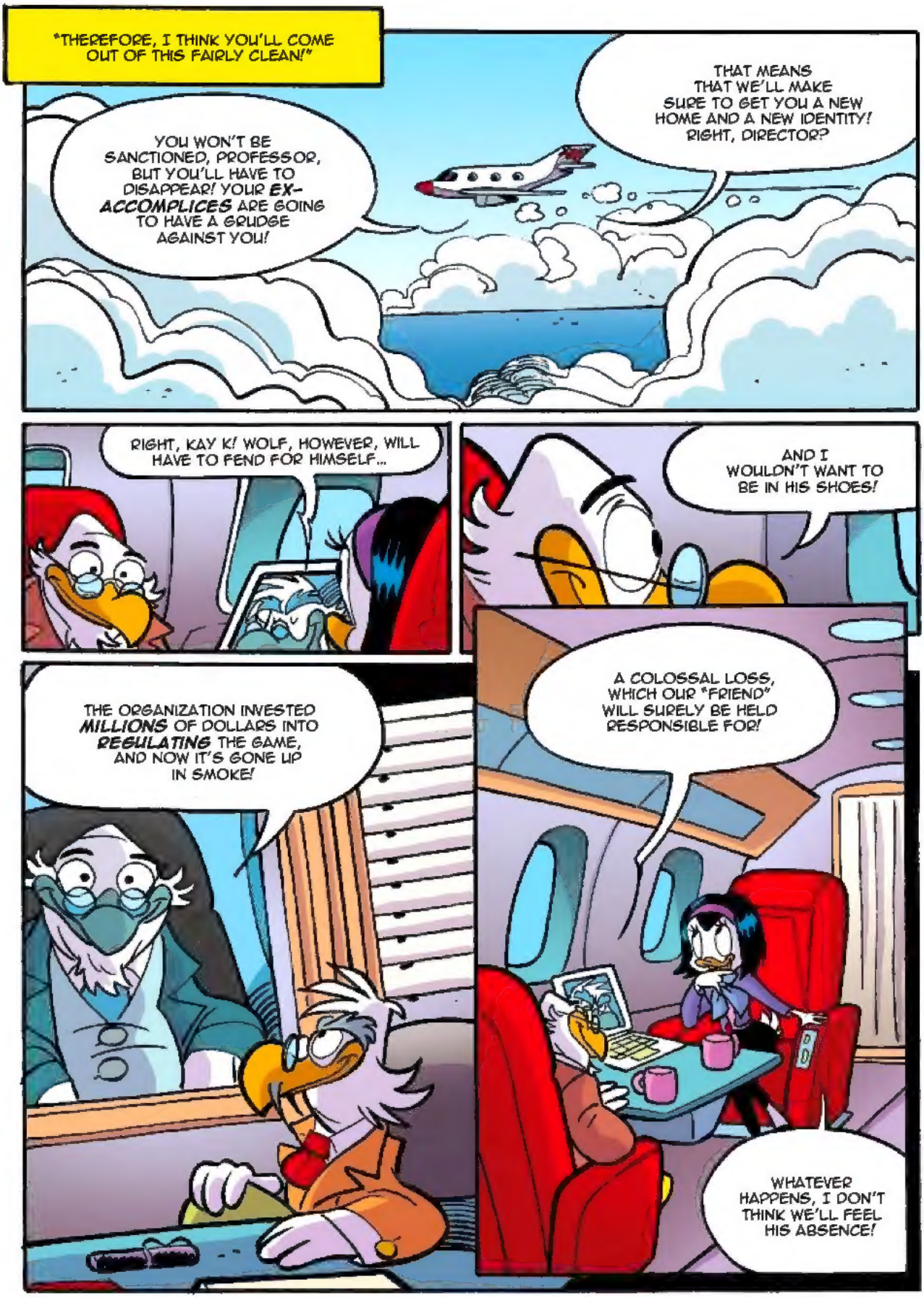
HE HE! I'D LIKE TO SEE WOLF'S FACE WHEN HE REALIZES IT'S GONE!
DON'T CELEBRATE JUST YET! HE'S NOT THE TYPE TO THROW IN THE TOWEL SO EASILY!
DO YOU THINK HE'S PLANTED OTHER DEVICES?
NO, THE PROFESSOR WOULD HAVE SAID SO!
BUT I FEAR THEY'LL QUICKLY DISCOVER THIS IS MISSING!
EVEN IF THE GAME HAS YET TO START?
I KNEW I'D FIND YOU UP HERE! YOU TWO NEVER GIVE UP, EH?
IT'S PROB-ABLE THAT... GASP!

HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO BREAK DOWN THE DOOR TO THE FREEZER?
FIGURE IT OUT YOURSELF, GENIUS!
DON'T WASTE TIME! IT'S URGENT THAT THE DEVICE IS PUT BACK INTO PLACE...
... AFTER YOU'VE BEEN DEALT WITH, OF COURSE! AND THIS TIME WE'LL PLAY IT SAFE!
GLOM! WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "PLAY IT SAFE"?
BY THAT I MEAN A HEALTHY BULLET! GOOD-BYE!
OH...
STUB
CIAK

YAAAAAH!
SMASH
URGH!
MY TURN!
SBAM
THE BULLET WOLF FIRED FROM HIS GUN *MISSED* YOU BY A MILE!
YEAH! IF THAT'S NOT LUCK...
PHEEEW! THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL!
THANK YOUR LUCKY STAR!
AS HE PULLED THE TRIGGER, THOUGH, IT SEEMED LIKE HE ALL OF A SUDDEN *LOST ORIENTATION!*


IN FACT, IT WENT EXACTLY AS YOU SAID!
CALVER-DUCK?!
I DIRECTED THE ULTRASONIC PULSES TOWARDS HIM, CONFUSING HIS MIND!
YOU MEAN THAT YOU RUSHED TO... SAVE US?!
I WANTED TO FREE YOU FROM THE FREEZER AND CAME UP WITH AN EXCUSE TO GET AWAY FROM WOLF...
"... BUT I DISCOVERED THAT YOU HAD ESCAPED! SHORTLY AFTER, THOSE THREE APPEARED!"
"THEY IMMEDIATELY REALIZED YOUR INTENTIONS! SO, I SECRETLY FOLLOWED THEM..."
"... AND I MANAGED TO ACTIVATE THE GENERATOR AT THE RIGHT MOMENT, DIVERTING THE SHOT!"


IN PRACTICE, YOU GOT US OUT OF TROUBLE AND DERAILED THEIR PLAN! BUT... WHY?
EVEN IF I'VE COMMITTED A DISHONEST ACT, I AM NOT A CRIMINAL!
WHEN PROPOSING TO DO BUSINESS WITH THE ORGANIZATION, I IMPOSED A CLEAR TERM; NOBODY GETS HURT!
TOO BAD TERMS ARE WORTH NOTHING TO THESE CRIMINALS!
I KNOW THAT NOW! ASSOCIATING WITH THEM WAS FOOLISH!
UNFORTUNATELY, THOUGH, I DID DO SO AND IT'S FAIR THAT I PAY THE CONSEQUENCES!
EXIT
DON'T DESPAIR! YOU'VE HAD A CHANGE OF HEART, FOILED THE SCAM AND SAVED OUR FEATHERS...


"THEREFORE, I THINK YOU'LL COME OUT OF THIS FAIRLY CLEAN!"
YOU WON'T BE SANCTIONED, PROFESSOR, BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO DISAPPEAR! YOUR EX-ACCOMPLICES ARE GOING TO HAVE A GRUDGE AGAINST YOU!
THAT MEANS THAT WE'LL MAKE SURE TO GET YOU A NEW HOME AND A NEW IDENTITY! RIGHT, DIRECTOR?
RIGHT, KAY K! WOLF, HOWEVER, WILL HAVE TO FEND FOR HIMSELF...
AND I WOULDN'T WANT TO BE IN HIS SHOES!
THE ORGANIZATION INVESTED MILLIONS OF DOLLARS INTO REGULATING THE GAME, AND NOW IT'S GONE UP IN SMOKE!
A COLOSSAL LOSS, WHICH OUR "FRIEND" WILL SURELY BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR!
WHATEVER HAPPENS, I DON'T THINK WE'LL FEEL HIS ABSENCE!

SPEAKING OF ABSENCES, WHY HAVEN'T I SEEN AGENT DOUBLE-DUCK?
DON'T BE AFRAID, HE'S HERE ONBOARD!
HE'S WATCHING A RERUN OF THE GAME IN THE NEXT ROOM...
"... AND I AM STRICTLY FORBIDDEN FROM REVEALING THE RESULTS!"
THE BALL'S GOING OUT OF THE LEFT SIDE OF THE FIELD... BUT THE ASSISTANT REFEREE HAS RAISED HIS FLAG! THEY'LL RESTART WITH A FREE KICK...
fine